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C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 1534

SUBJECT: LIBYAN SITUATION

REF: ALGIERS 1530 — POL 23-9 LIBYA

1. RADIO AND PRESS CONTINUE TO GIVE FRIENDLY, BUT NOT EFFUSIVE, HEADLINE TREATMENT TO APPARENT CHANGE OF REGIME IN LIBYA BUT GOA HAS NOT AS YET CHOSEN TO GIVE FORMAL RECOGNITION TO REVOLUTIONARY GROUP. FOLLOWING STATEMENT, WHICH OBVIOUSLY SPEAKING FOR GOA, HAS BEEN USED IN ALL MEDIA (INCLUDING MOUDJAHID SEPTEMBER 3) TO MANIFEST APPARENT ACQUIESCENCE TO NEW LIBYAN LEADERSHIP: "FROM THE BEGINNING OF THE CHANGEOVER IN LIBYA, ALGERIA HAS FOLLOWED WITH INTEREST THE EVOLUTION OF THE SITUATION IN THAT COUNTRY. THIS PURELY INTERNAL CHANGE WILL NOT IN ANY WAY, ACCORDING TO THE DECLARATION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND, ALTER UNDERSTANDINGS BETWEEN LIBYA AND OTHER COUNTRIE CONSEQUENTLY, THE CHANGE IS NOT EXPECTED TO AFFECT THE TIME-, NORED (SECULAIRES) TIES BETWEEN LIBYA AND ALGERIA, NEIGHBOR AND BROTHER COUNTRIES. MOREOVER, THE COMMITMENT BY THE COUNCIL OF THE LIBYAN REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND TO IMPLEMENT SOCIALISM AND TO GIVE GREAT IMPORTANCE TO UNITY OF THIRD

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WORLD COUNTRIES AND TO EFFORTS TO OVERCOME SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC

UNDERDEVELOPMENT CAN ONLY PLEASE ALGERIA, WHOSE OBJECTIVES ARE IDENTICAL. LIKEWISE THE TREATY OF SOLIDARITY AND GOOD NEIGHBORLINESS BETWEEN ALGERIA AND LIBYA CAN COME INTO FULL PLAY AND WILL REINFORCE THE SOLIDARITY WHICH ALREADY EXISTS BETWEEN THE TWO PEOPLES SINCE THE DAYS OF THE FIGHT FOR LIBERATION FROM COLONIALISM."

2. GOA IS APPARENTLY HANDICAPPED BY SPARSE INFORMATION REGARDING NEW REGIME AND SITUATION INSIDE LIBYA AND THEREFORE HAS FURTHER REASON FOR NOT FOLLOWING PATTERN OF OTHER ARAB STATES WHO HAVE FORMALLY RECOGNIZED NEW REGIME. FRENCH EMBOFF SAID LAST EVENING THAT GOA MAY FOLLOW FRENCH PATTERN OF RECOGNIZING COUNTRIES NOT GOVERNMENTS AND THEREFORE MAY NOT FEEL NECESSITY TO GO THROUGH RECOGNITION PROCESS AT THIS JUNCTURE. WE RECALL THAT IN RECENT COUPS IN MALI AND SUDAN, GOA SEEMED TO DO JUST THAT. ONE WONDERS ALSO IF GOA MIGHT CONTINUE TO PLAY IT SOMEWHAT COOL UNTIL IT HAS BETTER IDEA TO NASSERI AND/OR BATHIST INFLUENCE ON NEW LIBYAN LEADERSHIP.
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